

KWMS Panther Pride

January 10, 2025

Message from the Principal

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable winter break filled with time to relax, recharge, and connect with loved ones. As we begin a new semester, I am excited to welcome our students back and embark on this next chapter together.

The start of a new semester is a great opportunity for students to refocus, set new goals, and build on the progress they've already made. This week, students have been working on setting personal and academic goals in their English classes. Additionally, we took time to review important school-wide expectations, practice conflict resolution strategies, and reflect on the power of words to build others up. Students also explored various organizational skills to help them stay on track and thrive in the months ahead.

I encourage you to take a moment to discuss these topics with your child—it's a wonderful way to support their growth and help them stay motivated throughout the semester.

Let's work together to get this semester off to a great start. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have questions or need support—we are all partners in your child's success.

Here's to a fantastic second half of the school year!

Thank you Everyone!
Lisa Olsem ~ Principal

WE ARE KENYON WOODS AND WE DREAM BIG

To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also DREAM; not only plan, but also BELIEVE!

~ Anatole France



CREATIVE CLUB IS BACK FOR 2ND SEMESTER

Creative Club for 2nd semester is a go! First meeting will be January 21st (Tuesday) after school. You must see Mr. Kerwin in G206 and get a form to fill out before the first meeting, space is limited so first come first served! See Mr. Kerwin in G206 if you have any questions.

2024-2025
8TH GRADE TRIP
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

MAY 19TH [AT] MAIN EVENT
MEASURED JANUARY 6-MAY 16

**MUST BE PASSING 5 OUT
OF 7 CLASSES**

NO MORE THAN 1 ISI

**NO OUT OF SCHOOL
SUSPENSIONS**

**NO MORE THAN 3 REFERRALS AND
PHONE VIOLATIONS**

**NO LOSS OF PRIVILEGE STATUS DURING
THE DURATION OF 2ND SEMESTER**

PRELIMINARY ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY SESSIONS

Please help us spread the word about the upcoming Unite U-46 community sessions to gather input on preliminary school attendance boundary recommendations. These open house-style sessions are a great opportunity for parents, staff, students, and community members to drop in, ask questions, and share their feedback. Each session will focus on a specific network, but all are welcome to attend any session that fits their schedule. Spanish interpreters will be available at each session.

Here are the dates, times, and locations left for the sessions:

- Larkin Network - Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the commons at Larkin High School
- South Elgin Network - Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the auditorium atrium at South Elgin High School
- Streamwood Network - Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the commons at Streamwood High School

Those interested in attending a session may register at info.u-46.org/uniteregistration. While registration is not required, it helps us plan accordingly. A template, flyer, and graphics to help spread the word are available [here](#).

Math Help

IS AN EXTRA PLACE TO GET MATH SUPPORT WITH A TEACHER AND A VOLUNTARY COLLABORATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS THAT WANT HELP WITH MATH OR ARE WORKING ON A RETAKE. EVERYONE IS EXPECTED TO BRING WORK TO DO, REMAIN ON TASK, BE PATIENT WITH THE PROCESS, TRY THEIR HARDEST, AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

- Monday 8:00 to 8:50 AM-- meet in C150
- Tuesday 3:30 to 4:50 -- meet in the Gym then we'll go to A104
- Wednesday 3:30 to 4:50--meet in F204
- Thursday 8:00 to 8:50 AM-- meet in A108
- Thursday 3:30 to 4:50-- meet in F207
- **No pass necessary, just show up!**

DURING LUNCH

- Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Grab a laminated pass from front of the stage and get your lunch first in line
- When called, follow the math teacher with your lunch and supplies

FROM THE COACHES CLIPBOARD

**Congratulation Panthers
8th Grade Girls Basketball Team**

Ava Lazare
Amy Lloyd
Alyssa Rinaldo
Angel Jones

Brylee Greguras
Brie Morrelli
Bella Patitucci
Charlotte McSwane
Emily Foster
Felicity Webster
Kayden Wright
Lizzi Genz
Reese Nigoza
Sophie Stieglitz
Tristian Zarebski

**Congratulation Panthers
7th Grade Girls Basketball Team**

Valentina Lodron De Guevara
Elin Carter
Zoe Nigoza
Ashley Diaz
Mercy Aluko
Arianna Sanchez
Mia Rodriguez
Alina Alejandres
Nicole Domin
Deleyna Perez
Jaeliana Jaimes

Panthers Athletics Home Games Themes and Giveaways

1-22 Theme Wear Spirt Wear - Giveaway Popcorn
1-27 Theme Looney Tunes T-shirt - Giveaway Candy
2-3 Pack The Place "Wear White" - Giveaway Cheese Burger
2-10 Theme "Basketball NBA Jersey or NBA T-shirt Night" - Giveaway Takis
2-19 Parent Night Theme "Bring Poster Board with The Players Name" - Giveaway mini basketballs

Calling all middle school students! Share your ideas and flex your civics knowledge in the National Civics Bee®.

ABOUT THE BEE

The Elgin Area Chamber is partnering with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation to host a nonpartisan civics competition that encourages young Americans to engage in civics and contribute to their communities. Participating 6th, 7th and 8th graders will flex their civics knowledge for a chance to win recognition and cash prizes. Finalists will be invited to Washington, DC to compete in the National Civics Bee® national championship in Fall 2025.

WHY CIVICS

The Elgin Area Chamber is participating in the National Civics Bee® because we believe that informed and active citizens make for a strong country, a strong economy, and a strong workforce, and that our continued prosperity depends on the strength of all three. Through the Bee, we are promoting greater civic knowledge in Illinois and celebrating our civic pride.

HOW TO ENTER

Any 6th, 7th, or 8th grade student residing in Illinois with an idea about using civics to improve their community may submit their essay to participate in one local competition in their state. All essays must be submitted by **Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time**. Visit www.nationalcivicsbee.org for the latest news on the application portal, entry deadlines, and resources.

Students should review the Contest Rules and Essay Guide below and then apply using the following link: 2025 National Civics Bee® Application Link.

RESOURCES/ADDITIONAL INFO:

- [Essay Guide](#)
- [National Civics Bee® Highlights Video](#)
- [National Civics Bee® Website](#)
- [Student Flyer](#)
- [2025 National Civics Bee® Contest Rules – Essay Round](#)

[How to Submit an Essay](#)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Are you interested in showcasing your company's commitment to developing active and engaged citizens? For information about available corporate sponsorships, please contact us at info@elginchamber.com

SOUTH ELGIN HIGH SCHOOL

Essentials Exchange

Free Clothing Fridays

Event
dates:

1/24
2/21
3/21
4/25
5/16

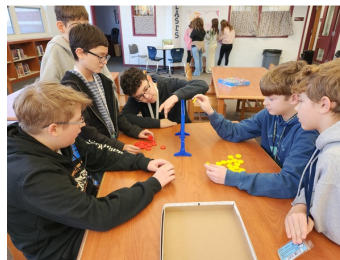


3:30
to
6:30
PM

Please park in the back of the school by the
mobile units (near tennis courts)

760 East Main Street; South Elgin, IL 60177
Questions: please email genevievehebeke@u-46.org

PICTURES OF THE WEEK



LESSONS FROM THE SCIENCE CLASS

A Passion for Rocks ~ By Mrs. Febles

As a science teacher, geology holds a special place in my heart. It was my initial field of study when I began my university journey. My fascination with rocks can be traced back to my earliest childhood memory of watching a movie titled *Crack in the World* at the age of three. The film, though filled with scientific inaccuracies reflective of the prevailing theories of its time, told the story of scientists attempting to tap into magma from the Earth's mantle by launching a nuclear missile—only to cause a catastrophic crack in the Earth's crust.

Despite its flaws, the movie ignited a lifelong passion in me. It inspired me to start a rock collection, set a goal to visit the geological sites depicted in the film, and ultimately pursue a career in science.

This semester, our 8th-grade science curriculum kicks off with a unit on Earth's geologic history. Students will explore the forces that shaped our planet's formation and continue to influence its evolution today. We began with a thought-provoking claim: our planet is 4.6 billion years old. However, I encourage my students not to accept this statement at face value. Instead, I challenge them to question how scientists can determine Earth's age with such precision. Our goal is to embark on a scientific quest, searching for evidence and understanding the processes that shaped our planet.

How Do We Know the Earth Is 4.6 Billion Years Old?

Have you ever wondered how scientists figure out Earth's age? It's not like there's a giant birthday candle marking the planet's "birth." Instead, scientists rely on natural evidence and clever techniques to uncover this mystery. Here are three key pieces of evidence that support the claim that Earth is about 4.6 billion years old:

1. Radiometric Dating

One of the most reliable methods scientists use is radiometric dating. This process examines radioactive elements, like uranium, found in rocks. Over time, uranium transforms into lead at a steady and predictable rate—essentially acting like a natural clock. By measuring the amounts of uranium and lead in ancient rocks, scientists can calculate their age. For example, rocks in Greenland have been dated to about 4 billion years old, while meteorites formed alongside Earth date back 4.6 billion years.

2. Evidence from the Moon and Meteorites

The Moon and meteorites also hold vital clues. Rocks brought back from the Moon by astronauts have been dated to approximately 4.5 billion years. Similarly, meteorites—space rocks that land on Earth—are about the same age. Since Earth, the Moon, and meteorites formed around the same time, these findings strongly support the conclusion that Earth is roughly 4.6 billion years old.

3. The Formation of the Solar System

The formation of the solar system provides another piece of the puzzle. Scientists know that the Sun, planets, and other celestial bodies formed from a massive cloud of gas and dust around 4.6

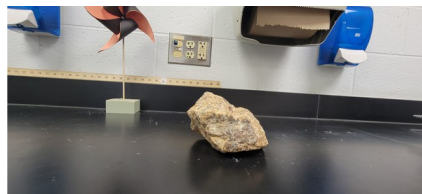
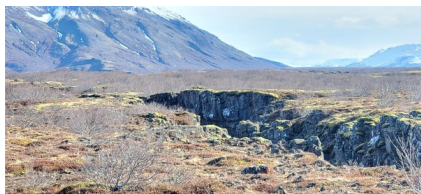
billion years ago. By studying the remnants of this process, such as asteroids and comets, scientists have further pinpointed the age of our planet.

The Big Picture

By combining evidence from radiometric dating, Moon rocks, meteorites, and the study of the solar system's formation, scientists have built a compelling case for Earth's age. It's fascinating to think about how these methods unlock secrets of our planet's distant past. Understanding Earth's age not only reveals its history but also helps us appreciate the processes that shaped the world we know today.

So, what do you think of this reasoning? Are there other methods you think scientists might use to determine Earth's age? Let's keep the conversation going—there's always more to discover when it comes to our amazing planet!

I'll also share some of my photos with you, including one of a rock dated to 3.8 billion years old, a crack in the Earth where the North American and Euroasian plates meet, which is caused by continental drifting in Iceland, a stunning view of Greenland's landscape, and fossils of Door County - I couldn't finish this pieces without those.



[LINK TO LUNCH MENU](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

1/20/25 - No School - Martin Luther King Day
1/21/25 - Girls Basketball vs. Ellis - Away
1/22/25 - Girls Basketball vs Kimball - Home
1/27/25 - Girls Basketball vs Larseon - Home
1/28/25 - ACCESS Testing - Listening
1/29/25 - ACCESS Testing - Reading
1/29/25 - Girls Basketball vs Abbott - Away
1/31/25 - No School - Institute Day
2/3/25 - Girls Basketball vs Eastview - Home
2/4/24 - ACCESS Testing - Speaking Test
2/5/25 - Girls Basketball vs Tefft - AWAY
2/6/25 - ACCESS Testing - Writing Test
2/10/25 - Girls Basketball vs Canton - Home

2/12/25 - Girls Basketball vs Eastview - AWAY
2/19/25 - Girls Basketball vs Tefft - Home
2/20/25 - Girls Basketball vs Canton - AWAY
2/22/25 - Cheer Clinic
2/22/25 - U46 Solo & Ensemble Festival
2/26/25 - ESPY Winter Sports Award Ceremony
2/28/25 - No School - Institute Day

[Link to all 2024/25 KWMS Panther Newsletters](#)



Kenyon Woods Middle School

Website: <https://www.u-46.org/KenyonWoods>

Location: 1515 Raymond Street, South Elgin, IL, USA

Phone: 847-289-6685

Fax: 847-488-1430

Attendance line: 847-289-6685 Ext: 6654



Lisa Olsem

Lisa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters